

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 07170 142124Z

21

ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ISO-00 SCA-01 CG-00 DOTE-00 /008 W

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R 141455Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8763

INFO AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS MOSCOW 7170

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN

SUBJECT: AMERICAN SEAMAN ASSAULTS SHIPMATE

1. MAY 14 CAPTAIN CHARLES J. LANE, JR. OF US-FLAG SHIP ACHILLES AT POTI REQUESTED EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING SOVIET VISA FOR REPATRIATION TO U.S. BY AIR OF SEAMAN JAMES COLWELL Z1117131D5. LAND SAID COLWELL IS NOW IN SEAMEN'S HOSPITAL POTI AFTER BEING ASSAULTED ABOARD SHIP BY WILLIE D. BUTTS Z266584080D1.

2. LAND SAID COLWELL'S INJURIES ARE NOT VERY SERIOUS BUT LANE IS CONCERNED FOR COLWELL'S PERSONAL SECURITY SHOULD HE RETURN TO SHIP.

3. LANE REPORTED BUTTS IS UNDER GUARD ABOARD SHIP. SOVIET AUTHORITIES ARE AWARE OF INCIDENT, BUT THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS TO DATE OF ANY SOVIET INTEREST IN TRYING TO GET INVOLVED IN CASE AS CRIMINAL OR DISCIPLINARY MATTER. SHIP SCHEDULED TO SAIL O/A MAY 23, AND LANE PLANS TO KEEP BUTTS UNDER GUARD AND RAISE CASE WITH AMCONGGEN ISTANBUL UPON ARRIVAL THERE.

4. LAND INFORMED SHIPPING COMPANY - ADMANTHOS SHIPPING CO., INC., 1 WORLD TRADE CENTER, NEW YORK CITY, TEL: 212 432 5150.

5. EMBASSY IS ENDEAVORING TO EXPEDITE VISA FOR COLWELL. ABOVE IS FOR DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION AND NO ACTION REQUESTED. STOESSEL

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